

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the said Fred Mazan, an amount equal to the aggregate of the amounts paid by him, or withheld from sums otherwise due him, in complete or partial satisfaction of the claim of the United States for such refund.

Approved May 10, 1956.

Private Law 628

CHAPTER 267

AN ACT

For the relief of Willie C. Pickett, George Williams, and Herman L. Looney.

May 10, 1956
[H. R. 5634]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Willie C. Pickett, George Williams, and Herman L. Looney, employees in the Helium Activity, Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior, at Amarillo, Texas, are relieved of all liability to refund to the United States the sums of \$466.57, \$923.47, and \$66.90, respectively, which they received as excess compensation as a result of their promotions approved on November 8, 1951, and which were the subject of the Comptroller General's opinion of May 5, 1954 (B-119468).

Willie C. Pickett and others.

Approved May 10, 1956.

Private Law 629

CHAPTER 272

JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell certain war-built cargo vessels and for other purposes.

May 14, 1956
[H. J. Res. 513]

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) the Secretary of Commerce is hereby authorized during a period of six months after the enactment of this joint resolution, to sell to the Alaska Steamship Company the C1-M-AV1 type cargo vessels, Square Knot and Square Sinnet on an as is, where is, basis. The sales price for the Square Knot shall be the sum of \$460,499 which sum shall be reduced by \$127 per day as depreciation for the period beginning January 16, 1956, and ending with the date of execution of the contract of sale of the vessel. The sales price for the Square Sinnet shall be the sum of \$463,529 which sum shall be reduced by \$126 per day as depreciation for the period beginning January 16, 1956, and ending with the date of execution of the contract of sale of the vessel.

Cargo vessels.
Sale.

(b) Each such sale shall be on the basis of the payment by the purchaser of not less than 25 per centum of the vessel sales price at the time of the execution of the vessel sales contract, with balance payable in approximately equal annual installments over the remainder of the twenty-year economic life of the vessel, with interest on the portion of the vessel sales price remaining unpaid at the rate of 3½ per centum per annum. The obligation of the purchaser with respect to payment of such unpaid balance, with interest, shall be secured by a preferred mortgage on the vessel in form satisfactory to the Maritime Administrator. Except with the prior approval of the Secretary of Commerce any vessel sold under this joint resolution shall, during the period ending December 31, 1965, or so long as there remains due the United States any principal or interest on account of the purchase price, whichever is the longer period, be operated only in service between the west coast of the United States and the Territory of Alaska.

(c) Any contract of sale executed under authority of this Act shall provide that in the event the United States shall, through purchase or requisition, acquire ownership of any such vessel, the owner shall be paid therefor the value thereof, but in no event shall such payment exceed the actual depreciated sales price under such contract (together with the actual depreciated cost of capital improvements thereon), or the fair and reasonable scrap value of such vessel, as determined by the Maritime Administrator, whichever is the greater; that such determination shall be final; that in computing the depreciated acquisition cost of such vessel, the depreciation shall be computed on the vessel on the schedule adopted or accepted by the Secretary of the Treasury for income tax purposes as applicable to such vessel; that such vessel shall remain documented under the laws of the United States during the remainder of the twenty-year economic life of the vessel or as long as there remains due the United States any principal or interest on account of the sales price, whichever is the longer period; and that the foregoing provisions respecting the requisition or the acquisition of ownership by the United States, and documentation shall run with the title to such vessel and be binding on all owners thereof.

Approved May 14, 1956.

Private Law 630

CHAPTER 273

May 14, 1956
[H. R. 3725]

AN ACT

For the relief of Herman F. Gierke, Junior.

Herman F. Gierke, Jr.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to Herman F. Gierke, Junior, of Watford City, North Dakota, the sum of \$2,500.00. The payment of such sum shall be in full settlement of all claims of Herman F. Gierke, Junior, against the United States for damages resulting from the failure of the Corps of Engineers to replace certain fences, for their failure to construct containment for livestock, and for their failure to construct certain road approaches which they agreed to do in return for an easement granted by Herman F. Gierke, Junior, to the United States. No part of the amount appropriated in this Act shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with this claim, and the same shall be unlawful, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Any person violating the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding \$1,000.

Approved May 14, 1956.

Private Law 631

CHAPTER 274

May 14, 1956
[H. R. 3975]

AN ACT

For the relief of the Reverend Boniface Lucci, O. S. B.

Rev. Boniface Lucci, O. S. B.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,000 to the Reverend Boniface Lucci, O. S. B., of Detroit, Michi-